

South Melbourne Soccer Club



Annual Ball Awards Ceremony

Saturday 7th June 1997

Grand Hyatt Ballroom



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of supporting the
south melbourne
soccer club.**



President's Message

Ladies and gentlemen

On behalf of my Board of Directors, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the South Melbourne Soccer Club 1997 Annual Ball and Awards Ceremony.

This year, as in the past, we come together to honor those people who continue to build South Melbourne's reputation as one of Australia's great sporting Clubs, and to reflect on another year of achievement and progress.

Tonight's function marks the culmination of a remarkable year for South Melbourne. Like a Phoenix rising from the ashes, the team rose from the bottom of the League ladder to a top six position, and the exhilaration of the Finals; where not only the team, but also members, supporters, sponsors and officials were all put to the test. South Melbourne ended the season in third place, a feat that seemed impossible to many during the opening few games.

South Melbourne is now firmly entrenched at the Bob Jane Stadium, setting standards of excellence that are the envy of all. Our total commitment to growth and improvement ensures that our members, supporters and corporate sponsors continue to enjoy the facilities of the best purpose built stadium in Australia. My special thanks go to Peter Filopoulos, CEO, Barry Horsfall, Marketing Manager, and Akrivi and Liz in Administration.

The Club, with Ange Postecoglou at the helm, has now assembled a team primed for the 21st century. Combining young talent with the expertise of established stars, South Melbourne is once again in its rightful place among the Ericsson Cup front-runners.

The coming season promises to be one of the most exciting periods in the Club's proud history. The transition period is well and truly over, and South Melbourne is now in the enviable position of commanding respect both on and off the field.

I take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks to those individuals and corporations which continue to support the South Melbourne Soccer Club, and in particular, Mr. George Kotes of Southern Motors, Messrs. Bill and Bob Jane of Bob Jane T-Marts, Mr. Warwick Mitchell and Mr. John Forbes of Puma Australia and every other sponsor of the Club, as mentioned in this program.

Finally, I wish to extend my gratitude to all the electronic and print media for their incredible support during 1996/97 and my Board of Directors for their tireless efforts throughout the year.

I trust you will enjoy our hospitality this evening and look forward to sharing a successful 1997/98 season with you.

GEORGE VASILOPOULOS
PRESIDENT

Programme

7 June, 1997

1. Welcome by Master of Ceremonies
2. Presentation of 1997 South Melbourne Youth Team
3. Presentation of 1997 South Melbourne Staff Trophies
4. 1997 Video Highlights (Part 1) - General Video Highlights
5. Presentation of South Melbourne Senior Team
6. Presentation of Coaches Trophies
7. Presentation of Sponsors Trophies
8. 1997 Most Improved Player
9. 1997 Top Goal Scorer
10. 1997 Rising Star Award
11. Special Presentation by Puma Australia
12. 1997 Video Highlights (Part 2) - Candidates for the Best and Fairest
13. 1997 South Melbourne Best and Fairest
14. Toasting of the Best and Fairest
15. President's Speech
16. Presentation of Sam Papasavas President's Award
17. 1997 Highlights (Part 3) - Special

Menu

Entree

Salad of prawns served with avocado and tomatoes

Main Course

Roasted Chicken breast marinated with chilli and lemon grass, with grilled vegetables and jasmine rice

Dessert

Bitter sweet chocolate souffle cake, with mango ice cream

Finest Australian Cheeses served with fresh Seasonal Fruit and Water crackers

A selection of Friandises

Beverages

Full strength and Light Beer (Proudly sponsored by Tooheys)

White and Red Wine

Soft Drinks and Mineral Water (Proudly sponsored by Coca-Cola)

Orange Juice (Proudly sponsored by Original Juice Co)

Champagne on Arrival only.

Sam Papasavas President's Award

The late Mr. Sam Papasavas OAM remains the longest-serving President of the South Melbourne Soccer Club. He founded and served as Chairman of the National Soccer League, and was a Commissioner of the Australian Soccer federation.

The ever-increasing popularity and professionalism of Australian Soccer stands as a legacy of Mr. Papasavas' tireless work and vision over some 20 years of service to the Club and to the game he loved.

The Sam Papasavas President's Award, presented by the President of the South Melbourne Soccer Club, acknowledges outstanding individual contribution to our great Club and/or Australian Soccer.

Past Recipients

1994	The Honorable Jeff Kennett MP	Premier of Victoria
1995	Mr. Peter Mitrakas Chairman Mr. Peter Abraam Director	South Melbourne Soccer Club South Melbourne Soccer Club
1996	Mr. George Kotses	Managing Director, Southern Motors
1997		

Coach's Report

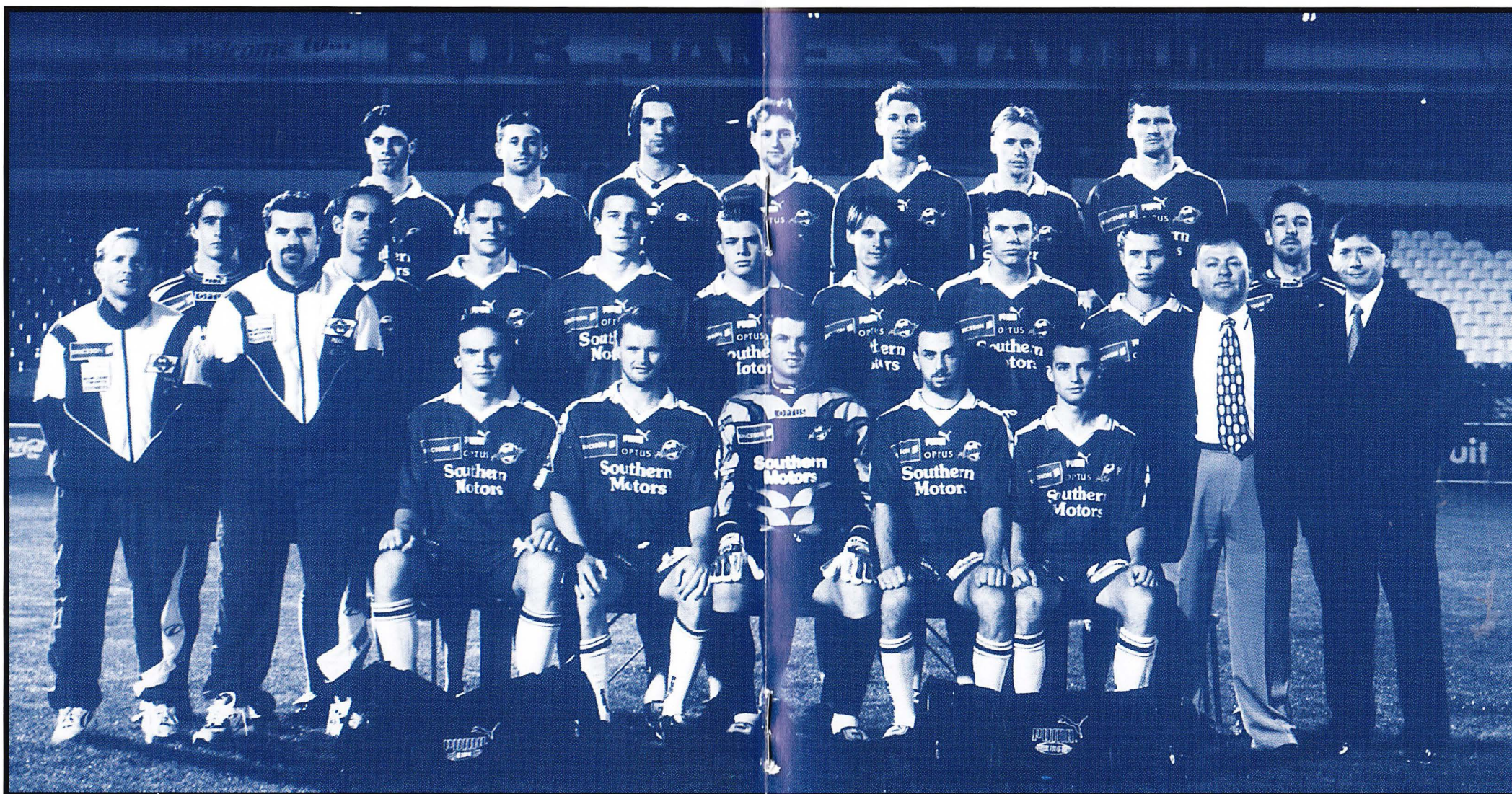
I take this opportunity to thank all of our players. Although struggling in the beginning, they came together and created a formidable force in the league. They each gave 100% of themselves, and can all be proud of a job well done.

I would also like to thank Carl Halford for his tremendous input throughout the year, Steve Blair, Peter Georgilopoulos, Les Gelis, Joe Nagy and Kostas Myriskos and Dr Stephen Sirkos. Together, they helped create a Winning Team.

Also, on behalf of the players, coaching staff, medical team and gear steward, I extend my gratitude to all supporters and sponsors for their support during the past season. We create successes on the field, but it is you who keep the Club strong and envied by all.

Last year, I promised that this season would be one where we would RESTORE THE PRIDE. We have succeeded in this, and I assure everyone that this coming season will be one where dreams will be realized. By all.

ANGE POSTECOGLOU
COACH



South Melbourne Soccer Club - Team 1997

Back Row: Bill Damianos, Steve Panopoulos, George Goutzioulis, Paul Trimboli (Captain) Jason Polak, David Clarckson, Aleksander Kuzmanovic.

Middle Row: Peter Zois, Tansell Baser, Vaughan Coveny, Con Blatsis, Daniel Allsop, Ivan Kelic, Nick Orlic, Michael Curcija, Nick Koletsas.

Front Row: Carl Halford (Assistant Coach), Ange Postecoglou (Manager/Coach) Robert Liparotti, Mike Petersen, Michael Petkovic, Steve Iosifidis, Fausto Di Amicis, George Kotses (Managing Director Southern Motors), George Vasilopoulos, (President).

Senior Squad List 1996/97

Paul Trimboli (Captain)	Nick Orlic
Michael Petkovic	Alex Kuzmanovic
Con Blatsis	Jason Polak
Steve Panopoulos	Vaughan Coveny
Warren Spink	Steve Iosifidis
Bill Damianos	David Clarkson
Mike Petersen	Tansell Baser
Daniel Allsopp	Michael Curcija
Robert Liparoti	Ivan Kelic
Alex Efstathiou	Fausto De Amicis
Nick Koletsas	Peter Zois

Theo Marmaras Player of the Year Award

Mr. Theo Marmaras MBE is the Father of South Melbourne Soccer Club.

Mr. Marmaras initiated the merger between Yarra Park and Hellenic United in 1959, giving rise to one of Australia's great Soccer Clubs. He served as inaugural Club President from 1959 to 1971.

The member of South Melbourne's senior playing squad judged to be Player of the Year will be awarded the Theo Marmaras Award.

Past Award Winners

1996	Paul Trimboli	1990	Mehmet Durakovic
1995	Mike Petersen	1989	Steve Blair / Paul Trimboli
1994	Steve Tassios	1988	Paul Trimboli
1993	Paul Wade	1987	Steve Blair
1992	Mehmet Durakovic / Paul Trimboli	1986	Bobby Russell
1991	Steve Blair		

1996 Award Winners

Player of the Year

Most Improved Player

Rising Star Award

Top Goal Scorer

Nominees for the.... Theo Marmaras Player of the Year Award



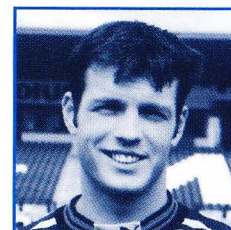
Paul Trimboli

Age - 28
Games - 293
Position - Midfielder/Forward
Height - 173cm
Weight - 74kg
Shirt No - 9



Fausto De Amicis

Age - 29
Games - 142
Position - Defender
Height - 170cm
Weight - 65kg
Shirt No - 25



Michael Petkovic

Age - 21
Games - 44
Position - Goalkeeper
Height - 185cm
Weight - 80kg
Shirt No - 1

Autographs

South Melbourne Soccer Club Sponsors

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6. South Melbourne Soccer Club

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IMC

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Jim's Automatic Transmission
John's Constructions
Marathon Foods
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Mitrakas Savas & Co
Neverfail Springwater
Pandeli & Co

Quit
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Tile Importers
Tim & Terry Oyster Supplies
Travelers Apparel
United Distillers (Johnnie Walker)
Valcorp Holdings
Weston Milling

Player Sponsors

Nick Orlic - Elco Foods
Alex Kuzmanovic - Mitrakas, Savas & Co
Con Blatsis - Gold Coast Jeans.
Paul Trimboli - Paul Triantos
Warren Spink - United Distillers
Vaughan Coveny - Rocket Batteries
Bill Damianos - John Dimitropoulos
David Clarkson - Southern Motors
Mike Petersen - Voula Filopoulos/Niki Kotis
Tansell Baser - John Vasilopoulos
John Paul Knezevic - Mary Pirchan
Daniel Allsopp - George Karabatsos
Michael Curcija - Dr. S Sirkos
Robert Liparotti - United Distillers
Sasa Nolic - Rocket Batteries
Alex Efstathiou - Peter Foutras
Alvan Kelic - George Metax
George Goutzioulis - George Karageorgiou
Fausto De Amicis - Mitrakas, Savas & Co
Con Anthopoulos - Rocket Batteries
Michael Petkovic - Manny Savvides
Jason Polak - M & A Auto
Steve Panopoulos - Bill Georgantis
Steve Iosifidis - Elco Foods



To be part of this winning team,
call Peter Filopoulos or Barry Horsfall
on 9645-9797 for all your corporate
and advertising requirements.

South Melbourne acknowledges the support of the following
organisations and individuals for their valuable contribution
to this evening's function.



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